ITS Technical Bulletin 170
IPCP

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This Technical Bulletin is to inform you of a new software package that is now available to you. The product is called IPCP. It is an interface from batch to CICS. It's main purpose is to allow your batch job to close the CICS files that are needed for that job and then re-allocate and open them when the job is finished with them. You may also set the files to either browse or update mode.

IPCP was purchased to relieve the operations staff from having to close or open groups of files at specified times. It will now put the control of your online CICS files in your hands. Your files will be more available to the online system because they will only be closed for the length of the job or jobs.

There is a security exit that has been written to control access to online resources. The security exit is driven by the job name and logon. Access to any particular CICS region will be granted or denied according to whether your job prefix has authority to modify the CICS region that you are trying to access. Once access to a particular region has been established, your job will be limited to datasets that are owned by your agency. The security is based on your two character agency prefix.

IPCP requests are made by passing control cards to the IPCP jobstep that runs prior to your jobstream. These controls cards will be maintained by you in your 'PARMLIB' dataset. The naming for your 'PARMLIB' dataset should be as follows:

xx.IPCP.PARMLIB - where 'xx' is your agencies two character dataset prefix.

There should be one 'PARMLIB' dataset for each agency.

The first control card in your input will need to be:

CICS CC ONLY=cicsname where 'cicsname' = the CICS region that you are trying to get to.

At this time you will only be allowed to update one CICS region at a time. If you have a special need to make changes in more than one region you will need to let the CICS Systems Group know about it. They will be able to make the necessary changes to allow updates to more than one region.

Documentation on the rest of the control cards is available by calling the Documentation

Librarian at 538-3462. The documentation she will send out to you will contain the job step that needs to be inserted along with the control card formats and options.

There are some of the control cards that will be invalid and will not be allowed by the security exit. They are: CEMT and ENQUEUE commands. Proper authority will also be needed for changing dump or journal dataset status. All of the other functions should be available.